

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A medical filter for therapeutic treatment of a patient, comprising: a first and second end defining a longitudinal axis; a plurality of struts extending between the first and second ends, the struts tending to resiliently expand in radially outward directions from a compressed initial shape to an expanded deployed shape; wherein in the expanded deployed shape in a vessel of a patient, the struts define a first and second filter section and a center section connecting the filter sections, the center section comprising longitudinally oriented struts; wherein each of the first and second filter sections in conjunction with the vessel wall define a number of filter cells, and the second filter section defines exactly twice the number of filter cells as the first filter section; such that the second filter section exhibits a greater filtering efficiency than the first filter section, the medical device being configured for retrievable implantation within a vessel and including a recapture hook structure with a symmetrical configuration for removal of the medical filter positioned on at least one end, the medical filter having its elements cut from a single tubular metal element for implantation within a patient, the medical filter being completely detachable from its delivery system during deployment.
2. (Original) The filter of claim 1, adapted for use in a body passage or vessel defining a fluid flow direction, such that the first filter section is positioned upstream of the second filter section.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Original) The filter of claim 1, adapted for use in the vena cava.
5. (Original) The filter of claim 1, further comprising anchors formed on at least one surface of the vascular filter, adapted to increase position retention of the filter.
6. (Original) The filter of claim 1, wherein in the expanded shape, a central portion of

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each strut tends to extend parallel to the longitudinal axis.

7. (Original) The filter of claim 1, wherein the filter is made of nitinol.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 1 wherein the number of filter cells formed by the first filter section in conjunction with the vessel wall equals six.
10. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 1, wherein the first filter section consists of six struts, each of which transitions directly to one of the longitudinally oriented struts of the center section.
11. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 1, wherein the first filter section consists of three struts originating at a collar, each of which bifurcates before transitioning to one of the longitudinally oriented struts of the center section.
12. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 9, wherein the first filter section consists of three struts originating at a collar, each of which bifurcates before transitioning to the longitudinally oriented struts of the center section.
13. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 9, wherein the first filter section consists of six struts originating at a collar.
14. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 13, wherein each of the six struts transitions directly to one of the longitudinally oriented struts of the center section.
15. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 14, wherein the six struts of the first filter section undulate between the collar and a transition point to the respective longitudinally oriented strut of the center section.
16. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 14, wherein the six struts are equally spaced about the collar.